

RESOLUTION NO. 06-208

A RESOLUTION REFLECTING THE INTENT AND POLICY OF THE CITY COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO FUNDING ARTS AND CULTURE.

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Wichita, Kansas established an Arts Task Force (the “Task Force”) on March 16, 2004, to study funding support for the arts in the City of Wichita, Kansas (the “City”) and to make recommendations concerning the same; and,

WHEREAS, the Task Force has recommended dedicated funding of the arts, by way of a special levy or funding allocation that would earmark funds for such purposes each year, in the approximate amount that would be raised in such year by 1 mill of the City’s general tax levy on the assessed valuation of all tangible taxable property then subject to such levy; and,

WHEREAS, the City has been able to identify no statute authorizing a dedicated or special levy, or establishment of a budget fund, for the foregoing purpose, but the Governing Body supports funding for the arts at the proposed level as a matter of ongoing policy, to be implemented in the adoption and adjustment of each annual budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS:

Section 1. Establishment of Funding Formula. It is the policy of the City Council to provide funding for arts and culture each year at a level approximating the amount that would be raised in such year by 1 mills of the City’s general, ad valorem tax levy on the total assessed valuation of all tangible taxable property then subject to such levy, with the intent of reallocating such funds from the existing budget, without any increase in the overall levy rate, to support arts and cultural organizations and facilities (as defined in the following section).

Section 2. Arts and Cultural Organizations and Facilities. The concept of “arts and cultural organizations and facilities,” as operative within this policy, shall include organizations and facilities that provide for the enlightenment and entertainment of the public through the production, exhibition, advancement, or preservation of art, literature, music, theater, dance, zoology, science, botany, natural history or cultural history. Existing organizations currently receiving funding from the City’s general fund include the Arts Council, the Wichita Art Museum, Botanica, Cowtown, Mid-America All-Indian Center, the Kansas African American Museum, and the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum.

Section 3. Arts Council Review Committee. In allocating funds among arts and cultural organizations and facilities that seek City support for their programs and functions, the

Governing Body will consider recommendations made by the City Manager and recommendations made by a Review Committee that will be established by the Arts Council and Governing Body. The Review Committee will be a separate committee of the Arts Council, and possess a broad based knowledge of the arts. The committee will have eleven members, seven of whom will be appointed by the Governing Body, and four of whom will be appointed by the Arts Council. Members of the Review Committee will include representatives from government, business, community, philanthropic organizations, education and the arts. The Review Committee will evaluate applications for funding from arts and cultural organizations and facilities. Performance measures, outlined by the Arts Taskforce, will be submitted by applicants for evaluation by the Review Committee.

Section 4. Submission of Recommendations. Recommendations made by the Review Committee shall be submitted to the City Manager's Office no later than the first Friday in June, to facilitate their presentation to the Governing Body in coordination with the City Manager's own recommendations and the City Manager's Proposed Budget. In the course of the budget hearings, applicants and members of the public will be afforded an opportunity to comment on such recommendations, and any related recommendations included in the Proposed Budget.

ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Wichita, Kansas, this May 2, 2006.

CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS

By _____
Carlos Mayans, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen Sublett, City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved as to Form:

Gary E. Rebenstorf, Director of Law